[10th March 1934

(*d*) The question of granting gratuity to the permanent staff of other departments employed in the project does not arise as they will revert to their original departments. Temporary employees are not eligible for any gratuity under the Civil Service Regulation.

Local Self-Government

Panchayats in the Province.

* 762 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of panchayats now existing in each of the districts of this Province; and

(*b*) the number of panchayats started last year in each district and the number of panchayats abolished last year?

A.—Statements [a] giving the particulars are appended.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" The statement shows that 386 panchayats were constituted and 212 were abolished last year. May I ask whether an equally large number of panchayats are abolished every year and, if so, for what reasons? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The power of abolishing non-union panchayats has been delegated to the Inspector and I do not think I will be able to give the reasons why they have been abolished in each case. Every year some panchayats are abolished because they are found to be working unsatisfactorily."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" May I take it that all the existing panchayats are active ones? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" They are not dormant."

Agriculture

Measures for improving the rice trade in the Province.

* 763 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what measures are under the consideration of the Government for helping rice trade in this Province?

A.—The measures taken or under consideration have already been explained to the Council by the Hon. the Revenue Member in his speech on the debate on the resolution for land revenue remission on 31st January 1934. They are repeated below:—

(i) The Local Government have urged on the Government of India the necessity for either the total prohibition of import of, or the imposition of prohibitive duties on, foreign rice in the interests of the rice-producing Provinces;

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a Printed as Appendix III on page 86 infra.